

REMARKS

The present application includes claims 1-20. Claims 1-20 were rejected by the Examiner. Claim 11 has been amended by this response.

In response to the Examiner's objection to the incorrect deletion of "detected" in claim 11, the Applicant resubmits a corrected amendment of claim 11. Claim 11 has been amended to recite that the remote first terminal generates a remote signal in response to an error reported by the workstation. The Applicant respectfully submits that claims 11-13, as amended, should be allowable.

Claims 1-4, 11-13, and 19-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zur (U.S. Patent No. 6,178,225), in view of Allison (U.S. Patent No. 6,094,531), in further view of Kobata (U.S. Patent No. 6,321,348).

Claims 5-10 and 14-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zur in view of Kobata.

The Applicant first turns to the rejection of claims 1-4, 11-13, and 19-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zur, in view of Allison, in further view of Kobata. As previously discussed, Zur very clearly relates to metering x-ray image exposures for billing purposes (Abstract; column 1, lines 43-50). Zur tries to improve billing of users for x-ray services based on charging for usable x-ray images and not charging for x-ray images that cannot be used for diagnosis. A thorough review of Zur